

Application Serial No. 09/804,830
Reply to Office Action of May 17, 2004

PATENT
Docket: C:U-2480

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-28 are pending in the present application before this amendment. The Office Action is of an *Ex Parte Quayle* type, which means that all claims are in condition for allowance but for objections to some formal matters.

By the present amendment, Claims 4, 13, 20, and 25 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

In response, appropriate amendments have been made to Claims 4, 13, 20, and 25. In particular, "n number of pulse signals" have been amended to --a number of pulse signals--. Withdrawal of the objections is respectfully requested.

Claims 9-10 and 21-22 stand objected to reciting the limitation "the beat" with insufficient antecedent basis.

Based on our review, "The beat frequency" is recited in Claims 10 and 22, and the proper antecedent bases are found in the independent claims 9 and 21, respectively.

Claim 9 recites:

"...the signal and reference beams having a **beat frequency** therebetween, at least one of the components of the signal beam being incident upon a test object, the signal and reference beams being combined and then separated into two mutually orthogonal linear polarized optical heterodyned signals that have equal intensities and equal carrier frequencies and that are a function of the beat frequency, time, and phase difference

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between the linear polarized components..." (emphasis added)

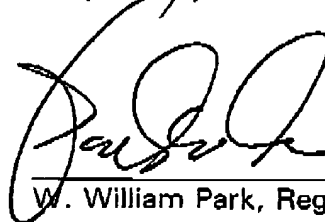
Claim 21 recites:

"...the linear polarized components of the signal and reference beams having a **beat frequency** therebetween, at least one of the components of the signal beam being incident upon a test object, the signal and reference beams being converted into two optical heterodyned signals that have equal intensities and carrier frequencies and that are a function of the **beat frequency**..." (emphasis added)

Withdrawal of this objection respectfully requested.

For the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-28 pending in this application are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance in the next action. This amendment is considered to be responsive to all points raised in the Office Action. Should the Examiner have any remaining questions or concerns, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone to expeditiously resolve such concerns.

Respectfully submitted,



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